



## LGV Specimen Collection Instructions

### I. Specimen Collection Procedures

#### 1) Rectal Specimen Collection

##### Equipment

Use the small swab and tube included in a standard DNA hybridization (GenProbe) or DNA amplification (BD, GenProbe, TMA, Roche) test kit.

Do not use the large tipped cleaning swab. If these test kits are not available, use a sterile, dry swab. After the specimen is collected, insert swab into specimen collection tube (no fluid or jelled medium should be included in the tube).

##### Collection Technique

Specimens obtained under direct visualization during anoscopy or sigmoidoscopy are preferred. If anoscopy or sigmoidoscopy is performed, collect specimen from visible mucosal ulceration, if present. For blind rectal specimen collection, insert swab 3-5 cm into rectum, rotate against rectal wall several times. Discard swabs grossly contaminated with feces and repeat collection. See flow diagram at [www.cdc.gov/std/lgv](http://www.cdc.gov/std/lgv) for specimen collection.

#### 2) Serum Specimen Collection: For all patients with a rectal, genital, or ulcer specimen, please also collect serum. However, serum submitted alone without another accompanying specimen will not be tested.

##### Procedure:

Collect approximately 5 mL of blood in red top vacutainer tube. Laboratory processing should include the following:

- Prepare serum by incubating freshly drawn blood at 37° C for 30 minutes for clot to form.
- Move to 4° C overnight to allow clot to contract.
- Separate serum by centrifugation at 10,000g for 10 minutes at 4° C.

Your state public health lab (PHL) may assist with this procedure.

#### 3) Sex Partner Contacts

- For asymptomatic sex partners of a suspected or confirmed LGV case, urethral/urine testing should be conducted for *C. trachomatis*. If positive for *C. trachomatis*, specimens may be submitted to CDC for LGV testing. If a residual specimen is available, this residual may be submitted for genotype determination. The minimal volume of urine required for genotyping is 1 mL, but larger volumes are encouraged (up to 20 mL). Please also submit a serological specimen from these patients.

#### 4) Other Specimens

- Other specimens may also be accepted. Please first call Dr. John Papp (contact information below) to discuss.

## **II. Specimen Packaging, Storage, and Shipping Procedures**

### **1) Specimen Packaging**

- Specimens should be packaged as they are typically packaged for sending to your state PHL. Specimens must be shipped to CDC following the Department of Transportation's Guidelines for shipping "diagnostic specimens."

Your state PHL will be able to assist with this procedure.

### **2) Specimen Storage and Shipping Procedures**

- Pack all specimens for shipping with insulated cold pack or freezer pack.
- Complete a separate specimen information sheet (below) for each specimen. Specimen information sheets may be copied as necessary.
- Contact your state PHL to confirm plans for shipping specimens.
- Specimens should be sent to your state PHL with labeling that clearly indicates that the specimens should be sent to CDC.
- The state PHL will need to complete DASH forms and follow the usual procedures for sending specimens to CDC.
- If necessary, all swab specimens may be stored at 2 to 8°C for up to 7 days. For longer storage, swabs should be frozen at -70°C. Specimens must be tested within 60 days of collection.
- Urine specimens should be frozen at -20°C and held in that condition during transit to CDC. For urine, shipment to CDC should be arranged within 7 days of collection.
- The state PHL can then send the specimen(s) to CDC at the following address:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
Data and Specimen Handling Activity (DASH), Unit 32  
BLDG 4, RM B35—G12  
1600 Clifton Road NE  
Atlanta, GA 30333  
Attn: John Papp, Chlamydia Laboratory

- Note: Reference testing specimens are accepted by CDC from state health departments and federal agencies only. At CDC, specimens will be sent to DASH first and will then be transferred to Dr. Papp's laboratory. If a specimen arrives at CDC without DASH documentation or without the clinical information form, it will be held for testing, pending submission of the appropriate forms.
- For questions regarding specimen handling and shipping, please contact Dr. John Papp (404-639-3785 or Email: [JPapp@cdc.gov](mailto:JPapp@cdc.gov)).

If you have a patient you suspect may have LGV, please contact your state and local health departments. For additional questions, you may contact the CDC's Division of STD Prevention:

**Katrina Park (Project Assistant)**  
(phone 404 639-1807, or e-mail [KPark2@cdc.gov](mailto:KPark2@cdc.gov))

*or*

**Dr. Heather Lindstrom (EIS Officer)**  
(phone 404-639-8659, or e-mail [HLindstrom@cdc.gov](mailto:HLindstrom@cdc.gov))

**III. Please cut apart to use or make duplicate copies as needed.**

**Specimen Information Sheet**

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Clinic Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Clinic Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact phone number \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax number \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Clinic Patient Identification Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Patient Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Anatomic site of specimen(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of specimen collection \_\_\_\_\_

**Specimen Information Sheet**

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_  
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Clinic Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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Fax number \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Clinic Patient Identification Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Patient Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Anatomic site of specimen(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Specimen Collected Under Direct Visualization: ☐ yes ☐ no  
Date of specimen collection \_\_\_\_\_

**Specimen Information Sheet**

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_  
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Clinic Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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Clinic Patient Identification Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Patient Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Anatomic site of specimen(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Specimen Collected Under Direct Visualization: ☐ yes ☐ no  
Date of specimen collection \_\_\_\_\_